

From the Upper Chamber



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Report for Tuesday, February 5, 2008

The eleventh day of the 2008 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Casey Cagle**.

Senator **Don Balfour** of the 9th stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 401-407, House Bills 857, 869, 1038 and 1039 and House Resolution 1158 were read for the first time and assigned to committees. The clerk then read the reports of standing committees and second readers.

Following the roll call, Lt. Gov. **Cagle** led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Reverend **J. Kevin Boland** of the Catholic Diocese of Savannah, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

Sen. **Ron Ramsey** of the 43rd took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to welcome students from Allgood Elementary School, who were seated in the Senate Gallery.

Sen. **David Shafer** of the 48th took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to discuss legislation he introduced today, the *Telecommunications Competition Act* (SB 408).

Sen. **Lee Hawkins** of the 49th took the rostrum to welcome former Atlanta Braves pitcher **Phil Niekro** to the Senate.

Senate Resolutions 798-803 were read and adopted.

Sergeant-at-Arms **Lorenzo Wallace** escorted Sen. **Jack Hill** of the 4th, other Senators and their guest to the rostrum. The clerk read SR 762, which recognizes **Jayson Foster** for his achievements in college football for the Georgia Southern University football team. Sen. **Hill** of the 4th spoke to the resolution and commended Mr. **Foster** for winning the 2007 Walter Payton Award.

The clerk read HR 1022, which sets forth the Statewide Water Management Plan. The Plan is the culmination of years of work by the Georgia Water Council, and it is designed to ensure the wise use and responsible conservation of Georgia's water resources.

Sen. **Ross Tolleson** of the 20th took the well to discuss the version of the Water Plan passed by the House. Sen. **Tolleson** stated that HR 1022 is the exact version of the plan that the Senate approved on Day 5 of the session.

Sen. **Chip Pearson** of the 51st took the rostrum to introduce the *Doctor of the Day*, Dr. **Larry Anderson** of Dawsonville.

HR 1022 was adopted by a vote of 42 to 10.

Sen. **Balfour** moved that the Senate adhere to its position on HB 89, the *Business Security and Employment Act*, which allows employees who are licensed to carry a firearm to keep their weapon in a vehicle while parked on company property. There was no objection, and Senators **Balfour**, **Joseph Carter** of the 13th and **Ronnie Chance** of the 16th were appointed to a Conference Committee.

Following the announcements, Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19th moved the Senate stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 6.

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